



2019-20 Student Dress Code Policy

Students at Lead Academy are expected to wear the required uniform every day, unless otherwise indicated. The dress code policy is subject to change at any time.

The uniform will consist of the following:

- A Lead Academy T-shirt or polo shirt.
- Khaki, navy blue or black pants, shorts, skirts, or jumper. Note: Khaki, navy or black jean material is acceptable. Neat BLUE jeans may be worn on Fridays only.
- Students and parents should make every effort to ensure that uniform shirts and pants are cleaned regularly. Torn or worn clothing should be replaced.

Shirt

- Uniform T-shirts must be worn Monday - Thursday. This is the uniform shirts with the new school logo: **red T-shirt for K-4th grade, dark gray T-shirt for 5th-8th grade** with the EPIC words on the back. Only those uniform T-shirts are allowed Monday-Thursday.
- On Fridays, students may wear any Lead Academy T-shirt, including apparel from prior years. These may include field trip shirts, athletics shirts, etc. Past uniform shirts and jackets (The navy blue ones) may only be worn on Fridays.
- Shirts do not have to be tucked in except as directed by staff for events, field trips or special visitors.
- Shirts should be appropriate fit and neat in appearance. If shirts are oversized, undersized or appear sloppy or unprofessional, Lead Academy administration reserves the right to require a student to tuck in their shirt while on campus.
- Students may only wear **solid-color undershirts** underneath their uniform (short-sleeve or long-sleeve undershirt). Undershirts should fit properly.
- Black polo shirts will be worn on field trips and to special events when requested by staff.

Pants/Bottoms

- **Khaki (beige/tan), navy blue, or black pants, shorts, skirts/skorts, or jumpers** must be worn Monday-Thursday and on field trips when specified. Khaki, navy, or black jean material bottoms are acceptable.
- All bottoms must be a tailored style. No athletic-type pull on shorts or pants.
- Neat BLUE jeans may be worn on Fridays.
- Other stipulations for pants include:
 - Purchased by the parent at store of your choice
 - Should be free of any designs, embellishments, or contrasting accent colors
 - **Pants and jeans may not contain holes or rips of any kind**
 - No baggy pants
 - Pants may not sag, must be worn at the waist
 - Shorts, skirts, skorts, and jumpers must be fingertip length.
 - Clothing should not be tight. Leggings cannot be worn by themselves.
- **Belts must be worn with any bottoms that have belt loops, even with an untucked shirt.**

Jackets

- Only Lead Academy jackets may be worn inside the school building.
- Lead Academy uniform jackets/hoodies (new dark gray design with the new logo) and any jacket with the new Lead Academy logos may be worn Monday-Thursday.

- Any Lead Academy jacket may be worn on Fridays, including apparel from prior years. ***Navy blue Lead Academy jackets from prior years may not be worn Monday-Thursday***
- Exceptions to the jacket policy may be made on very cold days as deemed appropriate by administration.

Belts

- **Belts are required for all items with belt loops, even though shirts do not have to be tucked in.**
- Belts should be black or brown, solid color with no embellishments, grommets or other items on the belt strap. Chains, pocket watches, or any other accessory should not be attached to the belt.
- Scarves, fabric, and other non-belt material may not be substituted for a belt. An item can only be worn as a belt if it is sold as a belt.

Shoes and Accessories

- **No “flip-flops” or sandals.**
- Shoes should not impair the regular form or function of a student’s day at school.
- All shoes, sneakers, or boots should be enclosed (closed toe).
- Socks, tights, or pantyhose must be worn with shoes.
- Any shoes with a heel taller than one inch are not allowed.
- **Earrings** may not be any larger than the size of a quarter
- No suspenders should be worn over any uniform shirt
- **Hair color or style should not be so extreme or inappropriate to the school setting as to disrupt the education process. Hair color or style deemed distracting or otherwise disruptive will not be permitted.**

We reserve the right to add to this list or modify the dress code policy as concerns or issues arise.

Uniform Violation Consequences:

- Blatant uniform violations (no uniform shirt or inappropriate bottoms) or consistent violations (e.g., no belt for several days) will result in the parent being contacted immediately to bring the appropriate uniform item to school and/or the student being sent home for the day. The student may be required to remain in isolation until the correct uniform is retrieved from home.
- If a student comes to school without a uniform item and a parent cannot be contacted, the student will be required to purchase a uniform item to wear, to ensure dress code compliance.
- Repeated uniform violations are seen as noncompliance with Lead Academy’s mission statement and core values and will result in further disciplinary action.

The rationale behind the Lead Academy uniform policy is as follows:

The mission of Lead Academy is to develop well-disciplined scholars who will be prepared for a college preparatory high school when they leave our school. In light of this, all students will be taught how a Leader acts, how a Leader presents himself/herself in appearance, and the skills necessary to be a Leader. We believe that students appear more scholarly when they are wearing an attractive uniform, and in turn students will act more scholarly because they will feel good about their appearance.

Another value of our school is that of “teamwork.” Just as members on a sports team are required to wear a uniform to promote unity, so too are scholars of the Lead Academy team. Students often spend too much time and energy concerned with which students are wearing the most popular name brand clothing. If our focus is on developing Leaders, the students at Lead Academy will need to spend their time and energy focusing on their education, not on comparing clothing.